

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-16, and 18-20 remain in the application for consideration of the Examiner with Claims 4 and 17 standing cancelled.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

Turning now to the art rejections, Claims 1-7, 13-14, and 17-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rife in view of Villani.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that Rife does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including the portion generally parallel to the mounting plate and spaced therefrom in independent Claims 1, 13, and 18, albeit defined as an extent in a direction substantially parallel to the mounting plate in independent Claim 14.

Rife discloses element 130; however, this element is not parallel to the mounting plate.

Whether or not Villani discloses a plurality of opening and whether or not one of ordinary skill in the art would consider modifying Rife is of no moment since the resulting construction would still in no way disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention.

Applicants appreciate the indication that if Claim 8 was rewritten to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, this claim would be allowable.

By the instant amendment, Claim 8 has been amended to include the subject matter of Claim 1 from the Amendment filed on September 9, 2003.

Consequently, Claim 8 is deemed allowable.

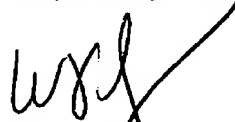
Additionally, Applicants appreciate the indication that Claims 9, 15, and 16 are allowed.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

While it is believed that the instant response places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,



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